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Nevada State GEAR UP Celebrates First Annual National GEAR UP Day

LAS VEGAS – The Nevada State GEAR UP program today announced celebration of the First Annual National GEAR UP Day on Thursday, September 24, 2009. This day will commemorate 10 years of Gaining Early Awareness and Education for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP), a college access program funded by the U.S. Department of Education. GEAR UP provides services to support academic achievement and assure students who might not otherwise graduate from high school do graduate and are prepared to enter college or the world of work. Most importantly, the Nevada State GEAR UP Grant guarantees scholarship funds for those students who meet established scholarship criteria and enroll in a Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) institution.

The current Nevada State GEAR UP program serves more than 4000 Clark County School District 10th grade students enrolled at 18 high schools. These students participate in a variety of college preparatory experiences including educational enrichment, tutoring, mentoring, field trips to colleges/universities, financial aid information, college entrance assessments, summer college camp, and summer school. GEAR UP encourages parents of high school students to be engaged with their education through parent programs and activities on each campus.

GEAR UP includes business partnerships in this important endeavor; CCSD partners are AT&T, Wells Fargo Bank, and Silver State Schools Credit Union. These partners support GEAR UP goals by providing financial aid materials and presentations, funding student summer college camps, and acting as mentors.

The Nevada State GEAR UP program has served over 8,000 students across Nevada for the past eight years. The first GEAR UP cohort graduated in 2007, and approximately half of those students currently attend or have attended colleges in Nevada and across the nation.

On September 24, GEAR UP Team Members (administrators, counselors, teachers, and support staff) from all 18 GEAR UP high schools will gather at Chaparral High School to kick-off the GEAR UP program for the year. During that meeting a proclamation from Governor Gibbons' office recognizing "GEAR UP Day in Nevada" will be read and "Dream, Believe, Achieve" banners for each school will be presented by a representative of Wells Fargo Bank.

For more information about the Nevada State GEAR UP Program in CCSD please contact Marj Robinson, 702-799-8462, mbr352@interact.ccsd.net. Charlotte Curtis at 775-687-9243 or ccurtis@doe.nv.gov and www.doe.nv.gov/gearup can provide information about Nevada State GEAR UP programs across Nevada. To learn more about the national GEAR UP program, please contact the National Council for Community and Education Partnerships at 202-530-1135 or www.edpartnerships.org. Listed below are high schools taking part in the Nevada State GEAR UP program.

School	Principal	Phone
Advanced Technology Academy	Karen Diamond	702-799-7870
Basic	David Bechtel	702-799-8000
Canyon Springs	Malina Winter	702-799-1870
Chaparral	Kevin McPartlin	702-799-7580
Clark	Jillyn Pendleton	702-799-5800
Del Sol	Betsy Angelcor	702-799-6830
Desert Pines	Tim Stephens	702-799-2196
East Career & Technical Academy	Glenda Goetting	702-799-8888
Eldorado	Ron Lustig	702-799-7200
Las Vegas	Debbie Brockett	702-799-0180
Las Vegas Academy	Andre Long	702-799-7800
Legacy	Tammy Malich	702-799-1777
Mojave	Charity Varnado	702-799-0432
Northwest Career & Technical Academy	Frank Pesce	702-799-4640
Rancho	James Kuzma	702-799-7000
Southeast Career & Technical Academy	Richard Arguello	702-799-7500
Sunrise Mountain	John Barlow	702-799-7207
Valley	Ron Montoya	702-799-5450

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